

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W
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R 031500Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL MILAN
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5875

C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 0326

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: IT PINT
SUBJECT: MASONIC GRAND MASTER ON ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

1. ITALIAN MASON'S GRAND MASTER LINO SALVINI CALLED
ON CONGEN MARCH 2 TO DESCRIBE SOME OF HIS WOES
PRESUMABLY IN HOPE OF GETTING HELP WITH CRITICS IN
US.

2. SALVINI'S TROUBLES WITHIN HIS ORGANIZATION ARE
SUBJECT TO COVER STORY IN CURRENT ESPRESSO (MARCH 5,
1978). ARTICLE DESCRIBES HIM AS HAVING DESTROYED
UNITY OF ITALIAN MASONRY TO SUCH DEGREE AND USING
SUCH LOW METHODS THAT HE IS ALLEGEDLY CURRENTLY
UNDER JUDGEMENT BY POWERFUL GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK,
WHICH WILL SUPPOSEDLY SOON ISSUE VERDICT ON HIM.

ARTICLE ALSO PAINTS HIM, IN PASSING AS CLOSE TO MICHELE SINDONA.

3. SALVINI, A TUSCAN, EXPLAINED THAT COMMUNISTS AND DISLOYAL
ITALIAN MASONS WERE MAKING ALL MANNER OF TROUBLE FOR HIM. SINCE
MASONS WERE FOR HUMAN FREEDOM AND ANTI-COMMUNIST, THEIR HOSTILITY
WAS EXPECTED. GREATER PROBLEM WERE ITALIAN MASON REGEADES
WHO WERE GOING OUT OF CHANNELS TO US MASONS, ONE OF WHOM IN
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PARTICULAR - INEW YORK - WAS MAKING A CAREER OF ATTACKS ON
SALVINI, HE CLAIMED. HE IMPLIED THAT IN VIEW OF HIS STOUT ANTI-
COMMUNISM, SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE TO CALL OFF US CRITICS.

4. SALVINI CLAIMED THAT MASONS HAD GIVEN CRAXI NECESSARY MARGIN
FOR VICTORY AT ROME CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN MARCH. HE
ARGUED THAT PSI RE-ALLIANCE WITH DC ESSENTIAL. THAT CRAXI FAVORED

THIS CAUSE AND THT THIS WAS FIXED MASONIC AIM. SALVINI FIRMLY
OPPOSED TO EARLY NATIONAL ELECTIONS EVEN IF THAT MEANT INCLUDING
PCI IN MAJORITY AS LONG AS KEPT OUT OF CEBINET.

5. CONGEN LIMITED HIS ROLE TO BEING GOOD LISTENER.FINA

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